



What are Bridges ?

13

A bridge is fixed replacement for a missing tooth that is attached to one or more adjacent teeth.

The supporting teeth are known as abutment teeth and the replacement tooth is known as the pontic. Bridges can be divided into three broad categories as follows

Conventional bridges.

These bridges involve one or more crowned abutment teeth linked together to include at least one pontic tooth.

Before



After



Upper left lateral incisor space restored using fixed bridge work. Smile balanced using minimal preparation veneers

Advantages

- Very strong predictable results
- Can replace multiple teeth
- Easy to clean and maintain
- Minimum of two visits

Disadvantages

- Extensive adjustment to multiple teeth
- High risk of fracture to abutment teeth
- High risk of tooth dying off long term
- Higher costs due to laboratory fees

StoneRock Dental Care
StoneRock House
High Street
Hawkhurst
Kent
TN18 4AG

TELEPHONE 01580 752202
FAX 01580 752203
EMAIL info@stonerock.co.uk
WEB www.stonerockdentalcare.com



What are Bridges ?

14

Wing retained bridges have an artificial tooth attached to a metal wing that is cemented to the back of an adjacent tooth.

These bridges are indicated where no preparation is required to supported teeth and often as an immediate solution after extraction.

Before



After



Root extracted and immediate wing retained bridge placed in upper right lateral incisor site.

Advantages

- Excellent aesthetics
- Minimal adjustment to abutment tooth
- Can be fitted at time of extraction of tooth

Disadvantages

- Can debond and drop off periodically
- Metal wing can shine through abutment tooth

StoneRock Dental Care
 StoneRock House
 High Street
 Hawkhurst
 Kent
 TN18 4AG

TELEPHONE 01580 752202
 FAX 01580 752203
 EMAIL info@stonerock.co.uk
 WEB www.stonerockdentalcare.com



What are Bridges ?

15

Fibre reinforced bridges use modern fibre reinforced composites to provide directly built "same day" bridges that are bonded to adjacent teeth.

These are an excellent option if the abutment teeth have been loosened by gum disease as the fibres can be used to strengthen these teeth as well as support the pontic.

Before



After



Patient missing tooth in upper right premolar region. Patient also had congenitally missing lateral incisors.



Premolar replaced with fibre reinforced bridge and anterior teeth corrected using direct bonded composites. All treatment finished in one appointment.

StoneRock Dental Care
StoneRock House
High Street
Hawkhurst
Kent
TN18 4AG

TELEPHONE 01580 752202
FAX 01580 752203
EMAIL info@stonerock.co.uk
WEB www.stonerockdentalcare.com

Advantages

- Same day result
- Lower costs as no laboratory fees
- Strengthen loose supporting teeth
- Can give a replacement option where no other replacement option would work
- Easy to repair in mouth

Disadvantages

- Composite prone to stain
- Cleaning more critical around bonded teeth
- Pontic can debond from fibres